

Field Test Completion Information

As of June 5, 2014, a total of 1,022,026 tests were completed by Connecticut students. In addition, over 264,393 unique students have completed tests. The current number of tests started and completed across all Consortium states can be found on the [Smarter Balanced Web site](#). Each “test” included in these counts represents a PT or Non-PT within a content area.

Upcoming Key Dates

June 6, 2014:

Field Test Window Ends

June 9–13, 2014:

Optional make-up week

June 20, 2014:

TIDE system closes

June 27, 2014:

Online Reporting System (ORS) closes

Help Desk—Change in Hours

The Smarter Balanced Help Desk will reduce hours of operation starting on June 16. The new hours will be 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. The help desk will continue to provide support for practice and training test inquiries along with general information about the 2014 - 15 operational administration through September 30, 2014.

TIDE and Online Reporting System Closing

The field test delivery system will be closing on June 13; however, the TIDE system will remain open until June 20. This will allow Test Coordinators to confirm demographics, or edit the non-participation field after the testing window closes. The Online Reporting System (ORS) will close on June 27. Reports can be run through this date; however, the data in ORS will be static once the test delivery system closes.

New Non-Participation Codes Reminder

The following Non-Participation codes are now available in TIDE. These codes are available for each content area test (ELA and mathematics). The table below provides a rationale for the use of each code.

Non-Participation Code	Rationale for Use
ABS: Absent	Student was unable to participate in the assessment due to an unexpected or extensive absence and was not available for make-up test sessions through June 13, 2014.
ELL: ELL Exemption	English language learners who first enrolled in a U.S. school within the last 12 months prior to the beginning of testing may be exempt from the English language arts/literacy portion of the Field Test. This field is not available for the mathematics test since English language learners are required to take the mathematics test.
MED: Medical Exemption	<p>A student was unable to start or complete the assessment due to a medical issue. A student cannot be considered Medically Exempt until the end of the testing window which is June 13, 2014. If you believe you have a student now who may not return for medical reasons, you may contact Joe Amenta at 860-713-6855 or Janet Stuck at 860-713-6837.</p> <p><u>THIS IS AVAILABLE IN TIDE, BUT SHOULD ONLY BE ENTERED BY CONNECTICUT STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (CSDE) STAFF. MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS REQUIRE APPROVAL BY THE CSDE.</u></p>
REF: Student Refusal	<p>A student was present for testing but refused to participate in the assessment.</p> <p><i>This field is equivalent to students who are considered Left Blank on CMT/CAPT.</i></p>
REL: Student Relocation	<p>A student withdrew from the Connecticut public school system (i.e., moves out of state, goes to private school, is home-schooled, etc.) after partially completing all assessments. Content area tests that were not completed should be noted as REL. For example, if the student completed the ELA non-Performance Task and the ELA Performance Task, the student would be noted as REL for the Mathematics Test only.</p> <p>NOTE: Students who withdrew from the Connecticut public school system prior to completing any tests should be deleted from TIDE.</p>
TEC: Technical Difficulties	Student was unable to complete the assessment due to technical issues. For example, a student was unable to advance to the next item or unable to log into the system. This includes cases where a test could not be reset or reopened in the TIDE Appeals System.

These codes (as noted below) may be set on the View Student Details page. Be sure to click **[Save Changes]** after selecting the code(s) on the student’s record. Users cannot add these codes via an upload process.

The screenshot shows a form titled "Student Non-Participation". It contains two sections: "ELA" and "Mathematics". Each section has a list of checkboxes with corresponding codes. In the ELA section, "None Selected" is checked. In the Mathematics section, "None Selected" is also checked. The other codes are "ABS - Absence", "ELL - ELL Exemption", "MED - Medical Exemption", "REF - Student Refusal", "REL - Student Relocation", and "TEC - Technical Difficulties".

Section	Code	Selected
ELA	None Selected	Yes
	ABS - Absence	No
	ELL - ELL Exemption	No
	MED - Medical Exemption	No
	REF - Student Refusal	No
	REL - Student Relocation	No
	TEC - Technical Difficulties	No
Mathematics	None Selected	Yes
	ABS - Absence	No
	MED - Medical Exemption	No
	REF - Student Refusal	No
	REL - Student Relocation	No
	TEC - Technical Difficulties	No

If users select a code for either ELA or Mathematics, it will override a completed test in the same content area. For example, if a student completed the Math Performance Task but is noted as Student Refusal (REF) for the Mathematics Non-Performance Task portion, the student would be considered as REF for the entire Mathematics test. This is the same protocol that has been used for CMT/CAPT participation calculations.

These codes are not linked to the Test Delivery System (TDS) or the Online Reporting System (ORS). As a result, if a user selected a non-participation code for a student in TIDE, the Test Delivery System will not prevent this student from participating in a test. Also, if a user selected non-participation codes in TIDE, reports from ORS will not include the non-participation information. For example, if a student has a paused test and a user selects “student refusal (REF)” in TIDE, the test will display as “paused” in ORS.

Reports from ORS will continue to display non-participants as “not started” or “paused.” Using the search feature in TIDE district users can generate a non-participation report from TIDE.

Data Verification Reminder

Districts administering the Smarter Balanced Field Test should ensure that the following demographic fields are accurately noted in TIDE prior to June 20, 2014:

- 1) Required fields (*) noted on pages 40 - 43 of the [TIDE User Guide](#).
- 2) The following non-required fields should also be verified:
 - Last Name
 - First Name
 - Middle Name
 - Birthdate

Contact the Academic Office at 1-860-713-6860 or SmarterBalancedCT@ct.gov with questions regarding the Smarter Balanced Assessment System. View past Smarter Balanced Field Test Updates on the [CSDE Web site](#).

Smarter Balanced Help Desk Contact Information:
1-855-833-1969 or smarterbalancedhelpdesk@ets.org.